

governor, and Mr. Bryan, his opponent, together with some editorials from leading Democratic papers of the state.

Senator Hitchcock's telegram follows:

Omaha, Nebr., Nov. 8, 1922.

Hon. Charles W. Bryan,
Lincoln, Neb.

Accept my congratulations and best wishes for your administration. My own defeat is a surprise but not much of a disappointment. Let me assure you of my appreciation for the loyal and whole hearted support which you and W. J. gave me.

G. M. HITCHCOCK.

Mr. Bryan wired this reply:

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 8, 1922.

Senator G. M. Hitchcock,
Omaha, Neb.

My dear Senator: The lack of the necessary votes to re-elect you has been a great surprise to me and deeply distresses me. You made a wonderful campaign for the entire ticket and party, and but for most unusual conditions, you would have been re-elected. Your leadership and advice of yourself and your splendid paper will be of great service to the Democrats and common people of this state, and I want you to feel that I will need and will sincerely appreciate your fullest cooperation during the trying two-year period through which I will pass as chief executive of Nebraska. Your congratulations and best wishes over my election and for my administration are very gratifying, yet the loss of the senator, the legislature and most of the state ticket depresses me.

CHARLES W. BRYAN.

State Senator Charles H. Randall, the Republican candidate for governor, sent this telegram of congratulation to Mr. Bryan:

Randolph, Neb., Nov. 8, 1922.

Hon. Chas. W. Bryan,
Lincoln, Neb.

Returns now in assure your election by a large majority. Please accept my sincere congratulations. You will have a wonderful opportunity to serve the people of our state at a time when calm, conservative, level-headed business judgment will in my opinion be the prime requisite of a successful administration.

CHARLES H. RANDALL.

This is Mr. Bryan's reply:

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 8, 1922.

Charles H. Randall,
Randolph, Neb.

Your telegram of congratulations upon my election as governor is most kind and generous of you, and I deeply appreciate the expressions of good will therein. The conditions in the state will, as you say, require level headed business judgment in the chief executive office, and I will appreciate any suggestions during my incumbency that may occur to you that will advance the interests of the people of Nebraska.

CHARLES W. BRYAN.

MR. BRYAN'S COMMENT ON THE ELECTION

Charles W. Bryan, in commenting upon the election, said:

"The result of the Nebraska election on governor is most gratifying. However, it indicates the intense feeling of the people over the doubling of the expense to the taxpayers in handling the administrative affairs of the state and of duplicating state officers and employees as has been done under the code system.

"Transferring the authority out of the hands of the people's own constitutional officers into the hands of the governor, who in turn under the code law transferred authority into the hands of countless employees out of reach of the people, who are supposed to be supreme, has been rebuked in no uncertain tones, and I am not vain enough to feel that the result of the election on governor was intended as a personal compliment to myself.

"While the election of a governor of one political party and a majority of the legislature and a majority of the state officers of another political party might be compared to giving a man a new automobile of one make and then supplying him with vital parts of it from another factory that might not adjust themselves as quickly and operate as smoothly as a complete new car of one build with all parts functioning smoothly from the state, yet I feel that the desires and needs of the people throughout Nebraska at this time are such that they have selected for the executive, administrative and legislative branches of the government, representatives who can and will work in harmony to give the peo-

ple not only the relief that they need from oppressive taxation, but who will restore the form of government that recognizes the American theory of government that authority which officials have comes up from below and is not dictated from the top as it is under kings.

"I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation of the splendid support which I received during the campaign and at the ballot box."

NEBRASKA'S NEXT GOVERNOR

Charles W. Bryan, the Democratic nominee for governor of Nebraska, made a clean fight that was open and above-board, and won a well deserved and gratifying victory.

That a Democratic legislature and a full set of Democratic state officials were not elected with him is disappointing to Democrats, but it is a result in no way chargeable to Mr. Bryan, who gave loyal and whole-hearted support to the entire ticket, both state and national, and whose desire was particularly keen for a legislature and state administration to support him in making possible the reforms to which he stands pledged. That Mr. Bryan was elected, and most of the rest of the ticket is at this writing apparently defeated, is due to the overwhelming Republican complexion of the state, which overstepped party lines to elect Mr. Bryan only because of intense resentment against the policies of the state administration of the last four years.

The World-Herald sincerely congratulates Charles W. Bryan on his splendid victory. If, as now seems probable, the legislature is to be again in Republican hands, this newspaper is entirely confident that Governor Bryan will not, on that account, mitigate his efforts for a repeal of the code law and for a rewriting of the revenue and taxation laws of the state. His own election makes unmistakable the public attitude toward these measures, and also the desire for a return to a simple and frugal administration of the state government. The legislature, whatever its partisan control, if it is wise and ready truly to represent the people, will fall into line for the measure of reform the people have demanded.

Our cordial best wishes to the governor-elect, and for an administration that will be creditable to himself and to his party because of its useful services to the state.—Omaha World-Herald.

TREND TOWARD INDEPENDENT VOTING

In the state election last Tuesday the voters of Nebraska showed the utmost indifference to the old time slogan of "Vote the ticket straight." They did more scratching than ever before, and the outcome is about as mixed as it ever has been in this state. The election was decided, not by the narrow gauge voters who put their cross in a party circle, but by those who started at the top of the list and picked their candidates for each office as they went down.

Public attention was concentrated mainly upon two offices—United States senator and governor. And for those offices, the candidate of one party for senator is elected by about 75,000 plurality, while for governor the candidate of the opposing party wins by more than 50,000. This shows a total spread of 125,000 votes measuring the extent to which party lines were crossed by the people in marking their tickets.

Had party names possessed their old potency and had the political managers been able to rally their followers as they used to do, by appealing to party spirit, no such thing would have been possible. There is, unquestionably, a strong tendency in these days to discriminate between candidates on the basis of what they stand for, rather than what party designation they happen to bear.

Nevertheless, it cannot be said that party lines have been wiped out. Nebraska is still normally a Republican state. It elects a Republican United States senator, most of the Republican state ticket, and a Republican legislature. The simultaneous election of a Democratic governor, three Democratic congressmen, and a Democratic secretary of state signifies merely that enough Republican voters scratched their tickets to accomplish these results.

C. W. Bryan's election as governor, under the circumstances, is a remarkable tribute to the independence of Nebraska voters. Although Harding carried the state two years ago by 130,000, and although the average Republican majority on other state candidates this year is 30,000 to 40,000, the same voters rolled up a 50,000 majority for Bryan.

The people have shown that they will rally behind a man who has the qualities of leader-

ship and fights aggressively for the things in which they believe. Nebraska taxpayers needed a champion to take up the fight in their behalf for relief from the crushing burdens laid upon them to maintain a bureaucratic state government. When he appeared, they threw party alignments to the winds and gave him their support.

It is The Star's opinion that the people of Nebraska will never again permit party politicians to line them up by the cry of "Vote the Ticket straight." In the future, we are likely to see more of the same kind of independent voting that was so strongly in evidence last Tuesday. And the more of it that is done the better government the state will have.—Lincoln Star.

INDEPENDENT VOTING

The one outstanding feature in the recent election which should afford much food for thought to machine politicians and big business interests of the state was the vast amount of independent voting on all sides and in every section of the state. While the Democrats made wonderful gains over two years ago and showed a united, harmonious front, neither party can claim any special victory. Mr. Howell was elected senator, not so much because he is a Republican, but more because of his progressivism. From 75,000 plurality for Howell the voters switch over to a Democrat for governor and gave Mr. Bryan more than 50,000 plurality. Here again progressivism puts in and cuts a great figure, Mr. Bryan's opponent being classed as highly conservative. The same situation prevailed in the congressional contests and to a great extent in the legislature. While a goodly majority in both Houses are registered as Republicans, they are progressives first and Republicans only as it was the most politic for them to go into the race. The state campaign was fought out on the issues of anti-code, anti-revenue law and reduction of taxes. Mr. Bryan made his fight and achieved success on these issues, many, if not all the legislators—since Mr. Bryan carried nearly every county in the state—were elected on the same platform and the people of the state are looking to the executive and the legislature to carry out their pledges, "without the aid or consent" of any special interests, big business newspapers or machine politicians on earth. These be serious times and these are serious problems. The Herald feels perfectly safe in speaking for Mr. Bryan, that he will make good, so far as he is permitted to do so. If the legislature makes as good as Governor Bryan will the people of the state will have cause for heartfelt rejoicing when the record is made up.—Lincoln Herald.

GOVERNOR-ELECT BRYAN HONORED BY HOME FOLKS

(From Lincoln Star, Nov. 10.)

About eight hundred people attended a "home folks" reception for Governor-elect Charles W. Bryan held at his home. Sterling Mutz, chairman of the Democratic county central committee, president, Mrs. C. S. Clayton, Mrs. T. J. Doyle and E. G. Maggi gave short talks. George E. Hall introduced Mr. Mutz. The people attending the reception met at the Lincoln hotel and proceeded to the Bryan home, led by the American Legion band.

Mr. Mutz said that Governor Samuel McKelvie stated two years ago that the Democratic party was fast becoming extinct in Nebraska. No one, said Mr. Mutz, had done more to propagate the Democratic party than Mr. McKelvie, with the possible exception of Gus Hyers.

Mr. Maggi said that while he had always been a Republican he had voted for Mr. Bryan, because of what he stood for. He said that he had known Mr. Bryan for twenty-five years, and that he believed that two years from now Charles W. Bryan would be elected United States senator by a bigger majority than he had received for governor. The people, he said, would now be supreme in Nebraska, while for the past four years "the state has been ruled by a bunch of cheap politicians."

A letter from C. A. Lord, who was to have been chairman of the meeting—but who could not be present, was read. "Burn his house if you want to, he and his wife are not too proud to live in the house the state bought for its governor and his family," the letter concluded.

At Eleventh and P street, 150 men under the leadership of E. L. Brother of Havelock and "Buck" Hawkins of Lincoln, joined in with a banner bearing the motto: "Home Folks Going to Bryan Ratification—Join In." As the parade proceeded, stragglers joined in. A long